

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: )  
 )  
**CHELCHOWSKI, et al.** )  
 )  
FOR: **A PIPE COUPLING ADAPTED FOR** )  
 **SEALING THE END OF A PIPE** )  
 )  
SERIAL NO. **To be assigned** )  
 )  
FILED: **April 18, 2006** )  
 )  
ART UNIT NO: **To be assigned** )  
 )  
EXAMINER: **To be assigned** )  
 )  
Attorney Docket No: **LP-02-027** )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are provided before the initial examination of the above-identified patent application. Examination and consideration of the above application in light of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

Please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.